



J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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April 30, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **STATUS REPORT ADOPTIONS AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT PROP A
ANALYSIS (Board Agenda Item 11, February 13, 2007)**

On February 13, 2007, the Board instructed my office to work with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) to assess the feasibility and cost effectiveness of contracting the Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA) relative home assessment functions. The Prop A analysis requires that we review the County's avoidable cost and the cost that contractors would charge the County if the services are contracted out. We estimate completing the Prop A review by May 10, 2007.

We completed a portion of the review which includes reviewing the County's avoidable cost calculation based on staffing and cost information provided by DCFS and the CAO. The review was based on the following three different contract options:

- Contracting out relative home building and ground site inspections;
- Contracting out relative home building and ground site inspections and criminal records/ prior abuse clearance;
- Contracting out all ASFA functions except the final determination of whether or not to place the child in the home.

On April 13, 2007, we asked the Association of Community Human Service Agencies (ACHSA) to determine a cost that contractors would charge to provide ASFA related services. ACHSA members include foster family agencies that provide some of the

same types of services for licensed foster family agencies that would be included in the ASFA functions. On April 27, 2007, ACHSA informed us that they were finalizing their cost calculations for each of the three options and planned to provide us with the calculations by May 1, 2007. We need additional time to review the cost data provided by ACHSA and estimate completing the Prop A review by May 10, 2007.

Please call me if you have any questions or your staff can call Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:MMO:DC

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Public Information Office
Audit Committee
Children Services Deputies